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PUBLIC HEALTH REPORTS.

UNITED STATES.

[Reports to the Surgeon-General United States Marine-Hospital Service.]

Regulations governing vessels from plague ports adopted by the Louisiana State board of health.

NEW ORLEANS, LA., November 18, 1901.

SIR: Inclosed please find copies of regulations governing vessels from plague ports, adopted at the regular meeting of the State board of health on Friday, November 15, 1901.

They explain themselves.

Respectfully,

G. FARRAR PATTON, M. D.,
Secretary.

[Inclosure.]

Louisiana State board of health—Regulations governing the destruction of rats, and the prevention of their escape from noninfected vessels from plague ports, and governing the prevention of the escape of any of the crew from said vessels, adopted November 15, 1901.

1. Upon arriving at the Mississippi River Quarantine Station, the vessel shall be thoroughly disinfected.

2. After the disinfection, she shall be permitted to come to the city wharf under the following regulations acquiesced to by the agents of the vessel.

3. The secretary shall see that the agents sign the acquiescence before the vessel is released.

4. The resident quarantine physician shall not release the vessel until informed by the secretary, or president, that the acquiescence has been signed by the agents.

5. The secretary shall serve a copy of these regulations to the agents upon their signing the agreement.

6. Upon arriving in the city, the shipping inspector shall place two sanitary inspectors aboard.

7. They shall remain aboard all the time.

8. They shall obey the instructions of the shipping inspector.

9. They shall see that these regulations are properly carried out.

10. They shall wear on their hat (or cap) a nicked hat-band 3 inches by 1 inch, bearing the words "Louisiana State Board of Health, Sanitary Inspector," fastened by a strong suitable pin.

11. The shipping inspector shall employ the number of policemen he shall deem necessary to carry out the regulations of the board.

12. At the city wharf the hawse holes shall all be packed tight.

13. Discs and funnels shall be kept on all hawsers and ropes mooring the vessel.

14. The funnels shall be of tin, zinc, or galvanized iron with a diameter of not less than 20 inches.

15. They shall have sharp serrated edges.

16. They shall be hinged and so arranged as to be readily applied to hawsers and held in desired positions.

17. One disc shall be placed near the vessel.

18. A second disc shall be placed near the wharf.

19. Passengers shall give their names and addresses.

20. They shall then be permitted to land.

21. They shall be kept under medical surveillance for ten days from the completion of the disinfection.

22. The captain, officers, and engineers of the vessel shall be permitted to go ashore without a guard.

23. The crew shall be detained on board.

24. After sunset and until sunrise the vessel shall swing out at anchor to about 100 feet from the wharf.

25. All stages, hawsers, and ropes shall be removed.

26. When not unloading or loading the vessel shall also swing out at anchor 100 feet from the wharf.

27. Every night during the unloading of the vessel pots of burning sulphur shall be placed in the holds and the hatches kept closed until 3 a. m.

28. Traps shall be laid along the deck at night and in the boats on deck and in the saloons and forecastle.

29. Dead rats shall not be handled with bare hands.

30. Dead rats shall be cremated.

31. The burning of sulphur in holds will not apply to vessels in water ballast.

32. The shipping inspector shall watch the health conditions of the crew and officers.

33. He shall muster them once or twice a day.

34. He shall at once report absences to the president.

35. He shall take the temperatures of all aboard in the evening.

36. Should at any time a suspicious or positive case of plague develop on board, the vessel and case shall at once be taken to the Mississippi River Quarantine Station.

37. All must be done to the satisfaction of the shipping inspector of the State board of health.

38. All expenses must be paid by the agents of the vessel.

39. These regulations shall cease to operate on the tenth day from the completion of the disinfection.

40. We, the undersigned, agents for, and representatives of, the owners of the steamship ———, hereby acquiesce in the foregoing regulations and to such other additional regulations as the board or its president shall deem necessary.

We bind ourselves without reservation to the observance of the same and to pay all the expenses incurred by the carrying out of these regulations.

[Adopted November 15, 1901.]

A.—Regulations governing noninfected vessels from plague ports.

Class 1. Vessels disinfected at the port of departure in a manner satisfactory to the Louisiana State board of health and without having had any case on board shall be redisinfecting and shall be given free pratique without further interference.

Class 2. Vessels anchoring off a plague port, without other communication with the shore than the loading or unloading of cargo during daylight by means of lighters, no one but the master and medical officer going ashore, shall be disinfected and shall be given free pratique without further interference.

Class 3. Vessels having moored at the docks arriving without passengers, muleteers, or persons other than the actual crew and personnel of the vessel, with cargo in ballast.

(a) If from a port with few cases and whose general sanitary condition is good, such as Liverpool and Glasgow, shall be disinfected, but not detained, and shall be subjected to regulations against rats and escape of crew, as provided further.

Class 4. If from a port with more than a few cases and whose sanitary condition is not good, such as Cape Town and the East Indian ports, the vessels shall be disinfected and detained ten days, unless otherwise determined by the board in each case.

Class 5. Vessels having moored at the docks, arriving with first-class passengers from a port with but few cases and in good sanitary condition, in cargo or in ballast, shall be disinfected, but not detained, and the passengers shall be permitted to land. The vessel and crew shall be subjected to regulations against rats and escape of crew.

Class 6. Vessels having moored at the docks, arriving with passengers from a port with more than few cases, and whose sanitary condition is not good, such as Cape Town and the East Indian ports, shall be disinfected and detained ten days.

Class 7. Vessels having moored at the docks, arriving with muleteers or persons other than the actual crew and personnel of the vessel, with cargo or in ballast, shall be disinfected and detained ten days.

Class 8. Vessels arriving at plague ports twenty days after the death or recovery of the last reported case, and sailing from that port, shall be disinfected and given pratique.

Class 9. Healthy vessels which have sailed more than sixty days after the last case of plague (death or recovery) from ports where the official reports announce the total disappearance of plague, shall not be subjected to disinfection and detention.

B.—Regulations governing noninfected vessels.

Class 10. They shall be disinfected according to Treasury regulations, using the furnace to force the fumes in.

Class 11. They shall be detained at the Mississippi River Quarantine Station for a length of time to be determined by the board.

Class 12. Their freight may be brought to the city on lighters, after disinfection, unless otherwise decided by the board.

(c) All previous regulations governing vessels from plague ports are hereby abrogated.

Smallpox in Chicago—Vaccination of seaman.

CHICAGO, ILL., November 19, 1901.

SIR: I have the honor to report that there are 4 cases of smallpox in this city.

In this connection I would state that all seamen applying for relief at this station are vaccinated unless they are protected from smallpox by a recent successful vaccination.

Respectfully,

HENRY W. SAWTELLE,
Surgeon, U. S. M. H. S.